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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/580,917	05/30/2006	Mingyao Xu	ISHI 20.887 (334786-00025)	8803
26304	7590	04/16/2009	EXAMINER	
KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP 575 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10022-2585			DOERRLER, WILLIAM CHARLES	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3744	
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			04/16/2009 PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/580,917

Applicant(s)

XU ET AL.

Examiner

William C. Doerrler

Art Unit

3744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 May 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,8,9,12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koyama et al (2004/0040315).

Koyama et al shows in figure 2, a valve for a pulse tube cooler with a motor 32, a valve disk 30 and a valve seat 20 with a high pressure volume 26 pushing the valve seat toward the motor axially. Bearings 36 maintain the motor driven disk from moving axially. Paragraph 4 discusses how the pressure difference moves the valve seat 20 axially.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawano et al (2002/0066276) in view of Koyama et al (2004/0040315).

Kawano et al '276, discloses a rotary valve for a cryogenic cooler. Paragraphs 107,137 and 164 discuss how the first and second valve elements a pushed to the seats by gas pressure. It is noted that the seats are on opposite sides of the discs, so one is pushed toward the motor while the other is pushed away from the motor. The figures show the placement of the ports. Kawano et al does not state that the driven valve disk is axially restrained, while the valve seat can move axially. Koyama et al show this feature to be old in the rotary valve for cryocoolers art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention from the teaching of Koyama et al to modify the cryocooler with a rotary valve of Kawano et al by using a valve with an axially restrained rotating valve disk and an axially movable valve seat to maintain a good seal between rotary valve parts while limiting wear.

Claims 1 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawano et al (6,460,349) in view of Koyama et al (2004/0040315).

Kawano et al '349, discloses a rotary valve for a cryogenic cooler. Lines 35-41 of column 8 discuss how the first and second valve elements a pushed to the seats by gas pressure. It is noted that the seats are on opposite sides of the discs, so one is pushed

toward the motor while the other is pushed away from the motor (the first valve seat is pushed toward the motor while the second is pushed away). The figures show the placement of the ports. Reference numeral 410 represents the buffer volume connected to the distal end of the valve. Kawano et al does not state that the driven valve disk is axially restrained, while the valve seat can move axially. Koyama et al show this feature to be old in the rotary valve for cryocoolers art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention from the teaching of Koyama et al to modify the cryocooler with a rotary valve of Kawano et al by using a valve with an axially restrained rotating valve disk and an axially movable valve seat to maintain a good seal between rotary valve parts while limiting wear.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

While applicant has added objected to language into the independent claims, this subject matter on further review is shown in Koyama et al (as well as being discussed as being in US patent 5,361,588 in paragraph 9 of the specification for this application).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William C. Doerfler whose telephone number is (571) 272-4807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 6:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl Tyler can be reached on (571) 272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

William C Doerfler
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3744

WCD

/William C Doerfler/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3744